

IN THE CLAIMS

1 Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A blade attachment for an off-road vehicle having
a forward end, a rearward end, a right side, a left side, and an underside, comprising in
combination:

5 a mounting frame having rearward and forward ends;

 said rearward end of said mounting frame being pivotally connected, about a horizontal
 axis, to said vehicle and extending forwardly therefrom so that its said forward
 end is positioned forwardly of said forward end of said vehicle;

10 said forward end of said mounting frame being selectively movable between raised and
 lowered positions;

 a blade having a right end and a left end; ~~selectively pivotally secured about a vertical
 axis to said forward end of said mounting frame;~~

15 said blade being selectively, pivotally secured to said forward end of said mounting
 frame about a single vertical axis at a position generally intermediate said right
 end and said left end of said blade;

 an electrically driven motor operatively mounted on said mounting frame;

20 said electrically driven motor being operatively connected to said blade so as to
 selectively pivotally move said blade between selected angular positions with
 respect to said mounting frame and the vehicle.

 Claim 2 (Original): The combination of claim 1 wherein said motor is powered by
the vehicle electrical system.

25 Claim 3 (Canceled)

1 Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The combination of claim 3-34 wherein said locking mechanism is in an unlocked position when said forward end of said mounting frame is in its said raised position.

5 Claim 5 (Original): The combination of claim 4 wherein said locking mechanism is in a locked position when said forward end of said mounting frame has been lowered a predetermined distance from its said raised position.

Claim 6 (Original): The combination of claim 1 wherein said motor is operatively connected to said blade by a clutch.

10 Claim 7 (Original): The combination of claim 6 wherein said clutch comprises a slip clutch.

Claim 8 (Original): The combination of claim 1 wherein said motor is a fractional horsepower motor.

15 Claim 9 (Original): The combination of claim 5 wherein said locking mechanism includes a locking pin, movable between locked and unlocked positions, and wherein a linkage is operatively secured to said locking pin for moving said locking pin to its unlocked position so that said motor may pivotally move said blade to one of its selected angular positions.

20 Claim 10 (Original): The combination of claim 9 wherein said linkage is engageable with the vehicle when said forward end of said mounting frame is in its raised position to move said locking pin to its said unlocked position.

1 Claim 11 (Original): The combination of claim 10 wherein a spring is operatively connected to said locking pin to urge said locking pin towards its said locked position.

5 Claim 12 (Currently Amended): The combination of claim 1 including a connection means for ~~wherein said motor is selectively adjustably connected~~ connecting said motor to said blade.

Claim 13 (Original): The combination of claim 10 wherein an actuator is operatively mounted on said linkage which is engageable with the vehicle when said mounting frame has been moved to its said raised position.

10 Claim 14 (Original): The combination of claim 13 wherein said actuator is selectively adjustably mounted on said linkage.

Claim 15 (Original): The combination of claim 1 wherein said vehicle is an all-terrain vehicle.

15 Claim 16 (Original): A blade attachment for an off-road vehicle having a forward end, a rearward end, a right side, a left side, and an underside, comprising in combination:

a mounting frame having rearward and forward ends;

said rearward end of said mounting frame being pivotally connected, about a horizontal

20 axis, to said vehicle and extending forwardly therefrom so that its said forward end is positioned forwardly of said forward end of said vehicle;

said forward end of said mounting frame being selectively movable between raised and lowered positions;

25 a first plate means secured to said forward end of said mounting frame;

1 a hinge plate selectively movably positioned on said first plate about a vertical axis and
having a forward end and a rearward end;

said hinge plate having a blade position lever opening formed therein;

5 said hinge plate having a plurality of spaced-apart notches formed in its said rearward
end;

a blade secured to said hinge plate;

a blade position lever operatively pivotally movably mounted on said hinge plate which
extends downwardly therefrom through one of said notches and through said
blade position lever opening;

10 said blade position lever being selectively movable between locked and unlocked
positions;

said blade position lever normally being in its said locked position;

and an electrically driven motor operatively mounted on said mounting frame;

15 said motor being operatively connected to said hinge plate for moving said hinge plate
and said blade to various angular positions with respect to said mounting frame
and the vehicle when said blade position lever is not in its said locked position.

20 Claim 17 (Original): The combination of claim 16 wherein the motor has a drive
pulley associated therewith; a cable wound upon said drive pulley and having first and
second ends; said first and second ends of said cable being operatively secured to said
hinge plate.

25 Claim 18 (Original): The combination of claim 17 wherein said cable is wound
upon said drive pulley in such a fashion to permit said cable to slip upon said drive

1 pulley should said hinge plate and blade be physically moved without said motor being
actuated.

5 Claim 19 (Original): The combination of claim 18 wherein said first and second
ends are secured to a driven plate which is positioned between said hinge plate and
said first plate; said driven plate being operatively attached to said hinge plate for
movement therewith.

Claim 20 (Original): The combination of claim 19 wherein said first and second
ends of said cable are resiliently connected together.

10 Claim 21 (Original): The combination of claim 16 wherein said motor is powered
by the vehicle electrical system.

Claim 22 (Original): The combination of claim 16 wherein said blade position
lever is in an unlocked position when said forward end of said mounting frame is in its
raised position.

15 Claim 23 (Original): The combination of claim 22 wherein said locking
mechanism is in a locked position when said forward end of said mounting frame has
been lowered a predetermined distance from its said raised position.

20 Claim 24 (Original): The combination of claim 16 wherein said motor is a
fractional horsepower motor.

25 Claim 25 (Original): The combination of claim 22 wherein a linkage is operatively
secured to said blade position lever for moving said blade position lever to its unlocked
position so that said motor may pivotally move said hinge plate and said blade.

1 Claim 26 (Original): The combination of claim 25 wherein said linkage is engageable with the vehicle when said forward end of said mounting frame is in its raised position to move said blade position lever to its said unlocked position.

5 Claim 27 (Original): The combination of claim 16 wherein a spring is operatively connected to said blade position lever to urge said blade position lever towards its said locked position.

Claim 28 (Original): The combination of claim 16 wherein said motor is selectively adjustably connected to said mounting frame.

10 Claim 29 (Original): The combination of claim 16 wherein said motor is selectively adjustably connected to said hinge plate.

Claim 30 (Original): The combination of claim 16 wherein said vehicle is an all-terrain vehicle.

15 Claim 31 (Original): The combination of claim 16 wherein said vehicle is a single passenger vehicle.

Claim 32 (Original): The combination of claim 25 wherein an actuator is operatively secured to said linkage which is engageable with the vehicle when said mounting frame has been moved to its said raised position.

20 Claim 33 (Original): The combination of claim 25 wherein said actuator is selectively adjustably mounted on said linkage.

25 Claim 34 (New): A blade attachment for an off-road vehicle having a forward end, a rearward end, a right side, a left side, and an underside, comprising in combination:

a mounting frame having rearward and forward ends;

1 said rearward end of said mounting frame being pivotally connected, about a horizontal axis, to said vehicle and extending forwardly therefrom so that its said forward end is positioned forwardly of said forward end of said vehicle;

5 said forward end of said mounting frame being selectively movable between raised and lowered positions;

a blade having a right end and a left end, selectively pivotally secured about a vertical axis to said forward end of said mounting frame;

an electrically driven motor operatively mounted on said mounting frame;

10 said electrically driven motor being operatively connected to said blade so as to selectively pivotally move said blade between selected angular positions with respect to said mounting frame and the vehicle;

15 a locking mechanism for selectively locking said blade in said selected angular positions.